

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add new claim 15, as follows.

Please amend claims 1, 4, 7, 9, and 13:

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D17
1. (Twice Amended) A balloon catheter having a distal end, the balloon catheter comprising:

an elongated catheter shaft having a proximal end, a distal end, a proximal shaft section, a distal shaft section, an inflation lumen, and a guidewire receiving lumen extending along at least a portion thereof, the guidewire receiving lumen being in communication with a port at the catheter distal end;

C2
a balloon on the catheter distal shaft section, having an interior in fluid communication with the inflation lumen, proximal and distal ends, a proximal shaft section, and a distal shaft section adhesively secured to the catheter shaft, the balloon distal shaft section having an outer surface tapering distally; and

a distal tip member having proximal and distal ends, an outer surface tapering distally from the proximal end of the distal tip member toward the distal end of the distal tip member, a lumen in fluid communication with the catheter shaft guidewire receiving lumen, and a proximal portion adhesively secured to the balloon distal shaft section and the catheter shaft.

C3
4. (Amended) The catheter of Claim 3 wherein the tip member proximal end extends proximally over the distal end of the catheter shaft.

C4
7. (Amended) The catheter of Claim 6 wherein the distal end of the catheter shaft extends distally beyond the balloon distal end in a range from about 0.5 to about 0.75 millimeters.

C5 9. (Amended) The catheter of Claim 8 wherein the proximal end of the tip member extends distally over the catheter shaft in a range from about 0.25 to about 0.5 millimeters.

§ 27
C6 13. (Amended) A method of forming a balloon catheter, comprising:

- providing a catheter assembly including a catheter shaft having proximal and distal ends, and a balloon having proximal and distal ends with an interior and a distal shaft section with an interior surface;
- providing a tip member having proximal and distal ends;
- positioning the distal end of the catheter shaft within the interior of the balloon distal shaft section and terminating at a point distal to the balloon distal end;
- providing adhesive along the exterior surface of the catheter shaft extending underneath the balloon distal shaft;
- positioning the proximal end of the tip member adjacent the balloon distal end;
- adhesively bonding at least a portion of the balloon distal shaft section to the catheter shaft; and
- adhesively bonding at least a portion of the balloon distal shaft section to the tip member, to thereby form a distal tip portion of the catheter having an outer surface tapering distally along the adhesively bonded portion of the balloon distal shaft section and the distal tip member.

Please add new claim 15:

C1 15. (New) The catheter of Claim 1 wherein the distally tapering outer surfaces of the balloon distal shaft section and the distal tip member are aligned and taper at the same angle.